AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of the claims:

Following is a listing of all claims in the present application, which listing supersedes all previously presented claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

an image memory including a first memory area to store a first image data group of a first image for a background and a second memory area for storing a second image data group of a second image for an on-screen display;

a display buffer memory for storing the first image and the second image read from said image memory, in a format to be displayed on a display screen; and

a control section for controlling accesses in said image memory and said display buffer memory, for reading the first image data group from the first memory area and writing the first image data group in said display buffer memory without intervening with any other memory area or buffer memory, and for reading the second image data group from the second memory area and writing the second image data group in a specified area of said display buffer memory, wherein

said control section includes a data expansion control section capable of selectively increasing a data amount of only the second image data group read from said image memory, according to the second image data group, and of outputting the data amount to the display buffer memory.

2.   (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said data expansion control section includes a magnification control section for magnifying the second image data group.

Application No. 09/899,157
Attorney Docket No. 107317-00030

3. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said magnification control section includes a circuit for adding a new data group obtained by copying each data contained in the second image data group to the second image data group.

4. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said magnification control section includes a circuit for adding a new data group obtained by conducting a linear interpolation for the second image data group to the second image data group.

5. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said display buffer memory stores the magnified second image data group.

6. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said magnification control section includes a circuit for also magnifying the first image data group.

7. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said magnification control section includes a circuit for also magnifying the first image data group.

8. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said magnification control section includes a circuit for also magnifying the first image data group.

9. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said magnification control section includes a circuit for also magnifying the first image data group.

10. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said data expansion control section includes a bit converter section for conducting a bit conversion to increases a number of bits of the second image data group.

11. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said bit converter section executes processing to add data "0" to low-order bits of the second image data group until a number of bits of data resultant from the bit addition reaches a number of bits which can be stored in said display buffer memory.

12. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said bit converter section executes:

first processing to add data "0" to low-order bits of the second image data group until a number of bits of data resultant from the bit addition reaches a number of bits which can be stored in said display buffer memory; and

second processing of smoothing processing to substantially equalize difference between data obtained from the first processing, the data being adjacent to each other on a display screen.

13. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein:

said bit converter section includes a display information table containing a large number of display information items and address information items indicating addresses at which the display information items are respectively stored; and

the second image data group includes a display position specifying information to specify a display position on the display screen and the address information.

Application No. 09/899,157
Attorney Docket No. 107317-00030

14.   (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said display information table is rewritable.

15.   (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said display information items are information items regarding colors to be displayed on the display screen.

16.   (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said display information items are information items regarding colors to be displayed on the display screen.

17.   (Currently Amended) An image processing method, comprising the steps of:

(a) storing, in an image memory, a first image data group for a background and a second image data group for an on-screen display;

(b) reading the first image data group for a background and the second image data group for an on-screen display from the image memory, writing the first image group in a display buffer memory without intervening with any other memory area, and selectively increasing a data amount of only the second image data group, and outputting the data amount to the display buffer memory; and

(c) displaying, on a display screen, the first image data group and a second image data group of which the data amount is increased.

18.   (Original) An image processing method according to claim 17, wherein said step (b) comprises the step of copying each data of the second image data group to obtain a new data group and adding the new data group to the second image data group.

Application No. 09/899,157
Attorney Docket No. 107317-00030

19.   (Original) An image processing method according to claim 17, wherein said step (b) comprises the step of conducting a linear interpolation for the second image data group to obtain a new data group and adding the new data group to the second image data group.

TECH/524362.1